

Minutes Board of Trustees Workshop January 28, 2014

The Village of Cold Spring Board of Trustees held a workshop on Tuesday, January 28, 2014 at the VFW Hall on 34 Kemble Avenue, Cold Spring, NY beginning at 7:15 pm.

Attending: Deputy Mayor Bruce Campbell and Trustees Matt Francisco, Charles Hustis and Stephanie Hawkins

Also attending: Michael Liguori, Village Attorney

Absent: Mayor J. Ralph Falloon (illness related)

Approximately 80 members of the public

Deputy Mayor Campbell opened the meeting.

Trustee Hustis read a draft letter to Robert Schick, Director of the Division of Environmental Remediation, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation notifying the DEC of the board's intent to condemn the boat club building.

Mark Patinella, Commodore of the Cold Spring Boat Club, requested an addition to this letter that would seek any expense incurred as a result of the cleanup such as moving materials, docks and boat storage.

Trustee Hawkins moved to approve this letter with one addition and seconded by Trustee Hustis. Trustee Francisco clarified the additional language as costs directly related to the moving and storage of materials from the site. Motion unanimously approved.

Boat club lease discussion

Trustee Hawkins spoke about inviting public input if the lease is renegotiated and consideration of setting up a committee. Trustee Francisco commented that future actions should be guided by the Comprehensive Plan which states that the boat club should be maintained and should generate revenue.

Trustee Campbell stressed the need to move forward. He then read the **attached** letter submitted by the Putnam County Sheriff which supported the continued operation of the Cold Spring Boat Club. The meeting was then opened for public input.

Michael Armstrong, Special Board chair read the text of the Comprehensive Plan related to the boat club. He felt that it was important to hear the actual language which calls for rethinking the use of the entire property. He added that the only issue you have to deal with is how you do that rethink. Last Thursday, the Special Board agreed there should be a group assigned to work with the boat club to develop a plan for this site. Further, the Special Board has \$6,000 available to have a consultant come in and develop some alternatives. This would be an open process that would shape what should be on that site. Also, he sees this as an opportunity for sharing costs perhaps with the county or with economic development.

Brad Petrie, Vice Commodore of the Boat Club supports the Comprehensive Plan process but sees this as overstepping the usual purpose of the plan. This is a negotiation between the village and an entity that has been there for a long time. He doesn't see the process presented by Mike Armstrong as the right process.

Ray Fusco, 25 Market Street, thinks it would be a tragedy to see the boat club go, it is part of the fabric of the community. He sees it as a wonderful village asset. We should be talking about the bulk head repair and other major repairs that could be done while the boat club is torn down. In order to get this paid for it will take a lot of money and he has offered to help raise the money to build. He thinks we should talk about the long-term ramifications of sea level rise. A rebuild will only work if the village, the boat club and the community work together because we have the DEC to contend with.

Claudio Marzollo thinks the primary negotiations should be between the two affected groups: the village board and the boat club, bringing in a third party only "muddys" the water. The village board should make the decision based on the input from the whole village. Dave Divico supported the comments made by Mr. Marzollo.

Unidentified woman asked if the boat club was open to the public for other functions who pays for taking care of the facility.

Mark Patinella, Commodore of the Boat Club, is concerned about what the boat club will have after the cleanup and wants to have a plan to go forward and has asked the village for help. He sees this as a large pressing issue and has stressed this matter for some time.

Trustee Francisco questioned if the membership was in full support, as this is a large project for two hundred people. In response it was stated by representatives of the boat club that the outline of a plan is one they believe the members will support but they can't take a vote until they have a real plan.

Anthony Patinella served on the village board for many years and pointed out the village survived for many years without the Comprehensive Plan. It should help to go forward but not stifle. The Village Board has the final say.

After a short break, the board addressed additional agenda items.

Market Street easements

Trustee Hustis moved to approve a resolution related to Market Street easements and seconded by Trustee Francisco. After discussion, Trustee Hustis withdrew the motion and moved to table until next week; seconded by Trustee Francisco and unanimously approved. Michael Liguori will review the easements and this item will be considered at the next workshop.

Docking applications fee schedule

The board spoke of developing an objective, standard policy for waiving fees and of finding the right balance in developing the future fee structure.

It was agreed that one week would be adequate to do research and then to invite the Seastreak to attend a board meeting.

Village appreciation gathering

In the absence of the mayor, this discussion was deferred to next week.

Bill Approval

Trustee Campbell moved to approve payment of the audited bills and seconded by Trustee Hustis and unanimously approved.

Wheelabrator contract

Michael Liguori asked for an opportunity to investigate if this contract was in accordance with purchasing policies. Trustee Francisco moved to table and seconded by Trustee Hustis and unanimously approved.

Approve application for CLG Grant

Kathleen Foley and Michael Bowman presented an application for a CLG Grant to update the village's historic ordinance and design standards. The grant application is due on 1/31 and can be submitted pending board approval. Trustee Hawkins moved to approve sending the application to the state as a draft and seconded by Trustee Hustis and unanimously approved. Attorney Liguori will review and the board will consider final approval at their next meeting.

Kathleen Foley commented on the poor acoustics in the room and asked for arrangements to be made that will allow the public to hear the proceedings.

Michael Turton of philipstown.info asked Trustee Campbell and Hustis (boat members) several questions related to a possible conflict of interest.

Water and sewer billing

The board reviewed correspondence received from out of the village water users who received shut off notices. Three of these letters involved requests for payment plans and there was one request to waive fees. After discussion, Trustee Francisco moved to entertain payment plans but not to waive fees and seconded by Trustee Hawkins and unanimously approved. A letter will be sent to the owner of a vacant property notifying them of the need to cap off their water service line. Further, for a property owner that has two delinquent accounts, one that is vacant, will have the account balances combined and the board will entertain a payment plan.

Trustee Hawkins moved to adjourn and seconded by Trustee Francisco and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Saari, Village Clerk